

ABSTRACT

A METHOD OF MONITORING PACKET COMMUNICATIONS TRAFFIC

5 A flow of packet or cell-based communications traffic is monitored by: setting a first
time interval over which measurements are to be made; counting number of packets
flowing during that time interval and using the count to derive parameters which are
indicative of the traffic meeting a sustained cell rate (SCR) requirement. Use of this
cell counting method rather than a per-cell computation of a generic cell rate
algorithm (GCRA) reduces computation requirements in monitoring traffic. Preferably
10 the cell count is used to derive a running difference between the counted number of
packets and an expected number of packets.

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